

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INR-07 SSO-00 SS-15 PM-04 SP-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7009

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 6716

STADIS////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, SP

SUBJECT: GOS REQUEST FOR URGENT FAA INSPECTION OF MADRID RADAR

CONTROL: EUROCONTROL OFFERS SERVICE; FAA BRUSSELS NEGATIVE

REF: MADRID 6704

1. EUROCONTROL REPORTEDLY HAS INFORMED GOS CIVAIR OFFICIALS OF WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE SPANISH WITH 3 MAN TEAM IN NEXT 3-4 DAYS TO CONDUCT REQUESTED STUDY. DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR AIRPORTS CESTEROS, HOWEVER, SAYS HE PREFERS THAT FAA CONDUCT STUDY, IN PART BECAUSE SPANISH AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS THEMSELVES HAVE EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR FAA. CIVAIR HAS PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED IN PRESS THAT A "SPECIALIZED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION" WILL UNDERTAKE AN EVALUATION OF THE ENTIRE MADRID AIR CONTROL CENTER. CESTEROS SAYS HE IS HOLDING OFF REPLY TO FRENCH PENDING FAA RESPONSE WHICH HE NEEDS AT ONCE, TODAY IF POSSIBLE.

2. EMBOFF DISCUSSED SITUATION BY PHONE WITH FAA'S CLYDE PACE IN BRUSSELS. PACE SAID THAT BECAUSE OF IMPENDING PROBLEMS WITH U.S. AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS IN NEXT 30 DAYS, HE, PERSONALLY, "WOULDN'T TOUCH THIS ONE WITH A 10 FOOT POLE." HE SAID FAA DID HAVE THE MANPOWER AVAILABLE BUT THAT POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF GETTING INVOLVED IN SPANISH CONTROLLERS' LABOR DISPUTE MADE HIM  
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VERY DOUBTFUL THAT FAA WOULD CONDUCT STUDY. HOWEVER,

DECISION, HE SAID, WAS UP TO FAA WASHINGTON. HE NOTED THAT WE HAVE BEEN TELLING GOS FOR 2 YEARS THAT IMPROVEMENTS WERE NEEDED, BUT SAID THEY REFUSED TO ACT UNTIL NOW WHEN THEY WERE IN TROUBLE. WE POINTED OUT THAT IN FACT AN OPPORTUNITY HAD FALLEN INTO OUR LAPS AND THAT FAILURE TO ACT QUICKLY AND POSITIVELY WOULD LEAVE THE FIELD TO THE FRENCH, BUT HE REITERATED U.S. DOMESTIC IMPLICATIONS OF INVOLVING OURSELVES IN THIS MATTER.

3. FOR SEVERAL REASONS WE BELIEVE IT IS CLEARLY IN OUR INTEREST TO MEET GOS REQUEST AND QUICKLY SEND FAA TEAM. BESIDES THE OBVIOUS COMMERCIAL POSSIBILITIES PROVIDED BY THIS REQUEST, AND THE EQUALLY OBVIOUS IMPORTANCE TO U.S. CIVILIAN FLIGHTS OF ADEQUATE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL STANDARDS, THERE IS AN IMPORTANT U.S. MILITARY INTEREST AS WELL. MADRID CONTROLLERS COVER TORREJON AIR TRAFFIC AS WELL AS BARAJAS CIVILIAN FLIGHTS AND WORK CLOSELY WITH U.S. MILITARY HERE. PRESENT GO-SLOW HAS CREATED SOME DIFFICULT SITUATIONS REGARDING PROMPT DEPARTURES FOR REFUELING FLIGHTS, AND ONLY THE FAVORED TREATMENT OF TORREJON AIRCRAFT BY ATC PERSONNEL HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE TO MEET MISSION REQUIREMENTS IN LAST COUPLE OF DAYS. IN LONG TERM IT IS VERY MUCH IN U.S. MILITARY INTEREST THAT FAA AND U.S. FIRMS PLAY KEY ROLE IN ANY MODERNIZATION OF MADRID REGION AIR CONTROL. OUR FAILURE TO RESPOND POSITIVELY AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME FOR SPANISH CIVIL AIR OFFICIALS COULD MEAN OUR EXCLUSION FROM FUTURE PARTICIPATION IN ATC DEVELOPMENTS HERE.

4. ALTHOUGH FAA WASHINGTON MAY IN FACT IGNORE BRUSSELS VIEWS AND AGREE WITH OUR CONCLUSIONS, EMBASSY STILL BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR DEPARTMENT TO CONTACT FAA ASAP TODAY TO ENCOURAGE IMMEDIATE POSITIVE RESPONSE. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO COORDINATE APPROACH WITH PENTAGON, SINCE CHIEF JUSMG, WHO CONCURS IN THESE VIEWS, WILL BE SENDING HIS OWN REPORT.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL, INSPECTIONS, RADAR EQUIPMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**TAGS:** EAIR, SP, US, FAA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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